

# Official Minutes for Webb County Commissioners Court Meeting

Monday, February 12, 2007 at 9:00 AM  
(Approved February 26, 2007)

Call to order by Judge Danny Valdez  
Let it be remembered that a regular meeting of the Webb County  
Commissioners Court was held at 9:00 a.m. at the regular meeting place with  
the following members present to wit:

Danny Valdez	County Judge
Frank Sciaraffa	Commissioner, Pct. 1
Rosaura "Wawi" Tijerina	Commissioner, Pct. 2
Jerry Garza	Commissioner, Pct. 3
Sergio "Keko" Martinez	Commissioner, Pct. 4

Thus constituting a quorum, the Commissioners Court proceeded to act upon  
the Agenda as posted in the meeting notice of the 7th of February 2007.  
Present also were Mrs. Imelda Diaz, Deputy County Clerk representing Mrs.  
Margie Ramirez Ibarra, Ex-officio Clerk of the Commissioners Court, various  
officers and others interested in the business of the Court.

Item No. 1. ROLL CALL BY HONORABLE MARGIE RAMIREZ IBARRA, WEBB  
COUNTY CLERK

Item No. 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Item No. 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JANUARY 16, 2007 AND JANUARY 22, 2007

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 4. APPROVAL OF BILLS, PAYROLL AND MONTHLY REPORTS

Mr. Leo Flores, County Auditor, presented the monthly report and advised the Court that they were  
going through the Independent Audit and should be completed within two weeks. He notified the  
Court that the fund balance is at 17.37% which is over the target of 15%; however, he mentioned that  
the number is unaudited but no major changes are expected. He explained that on the grant  
explanations the columns in red do not signify a deficit but a receivable.

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Cmr. Martinez asked to whom the rent money from the leasing of the Veteran's Coalition was given to. Mr. Flores explained that he received a call from the treasurer's department as to direction on where to deposit the money and he recommended to them to contact the County Attorney's office.

Item No. 5.        COMMUNICATIONS

Judge Valdez thanked Mayor Raul Salinas and City Council for passing the Resolution which allowed the Commissioners Court and City Council to resolve any pending issues.

Mayor Raul Salinas thanked the Court and stated that it felt good to be present especially since it was in a cooperative relationship. He stated that the right thing to do was to work together and mentioned that it showed good signs of cooperation now that Judge Valdez and he will be traveling to Austin and Washington, D.C. together.

Cmr. Sciaraffa thanked the mayor and city council and mentioned that he was also looking forward to working together.

Cmr. Tijerina also stated that she was also looking forward in working with the mayor and city council.

Cmr. Garza thanked the mayor and city council and stated that he was looking forward to working together. Cmr. Garza reported that the e payment online service is going well and that the total collections were \$4,110.00 in only 1 ½ months of implementation. He encouraged other Justices of the Peace to join with in the service. He congratulated the Head Start Program for excelling on the Federal Audit Review and he further congratulated the Motor Pool Staff for their hard work. He thanked the public for their support with the *Cans for Habitat* Project and also thanked the South Texas Food Bank for assessing to the needs of a local family.

Cmr. Martinez thanked Mayor Raul Salinas for the words of encouragement. He congratulated the Head Start Program and advised them that they could borrow Dr. Lozano who presently is under his staff. He mentioned that he was approached by two board members who advised that a new chapel could be used for the Veterans of this community. He stated that it seemed to him that every time something is being done on county property, the tax payers are the last to be informed.

Item No. 6.        Public Comment-This section provides the public the opportunity to address the Commissioners Court on any items on the Agenda. Members of the public wishing to participate must complete a Witness Card specifying which agenda item they wish to comment on. Each public member will be allowed a total of three (3) minutes within which to make any/all public comments.

1<sup>st</sup> witness card – Hector Farias

Mr. Farias, Chairman Veteran's Coalition, stated that he would like the Court to set the rules straight because during the last meeting Mr. Jose was harassed by Cmr. Martinez. He stated that the bailiff is not the Judge's bailiff but the Commissioner's Court bailiff and clarified that he did not spend nine years of his life so that he could give away his 1<sup>st</sup> amendment right. He stated that he took offense to everything that was mentioned in a Nuevo Laredo newspaper and if anyone had something to tell him or his family not to use the press. He went on to say that if the County did not

want the property to return it back for \$90,000.00 and that the County would only be spending around \$300,000.00 on the Veterans in comparison to \$15 million for the youth village.

2<sup>nd</sup> witness card – Felipe Farias

Mr. Farias clarified that he was speaking as a taxpayer and that he has never been involved in politics; however, he has noticed that when elected officials loose they ask the community for their vote once again. He affirmed that even though there have been people who have insulted his family; his brother has always done things from the goodness of his heart. He stated that everyone should be united and stop all the fighting.

3<sup>rd</sup> witness card– Hermilio Martinez

Mr. Martinez stated that since he had heard several rumors about the veteran's museum; he went to see the place himself and after revising the place he felt it was disgusting and that the place looked as if it was the ruins of an old house and felt that the Veterans deserved something better.

4<sup>th</sup> witness card– Jose M. Soto

Mr. Soto, Executive Director of the Laredo Veterans Coalition, notified the Court that he had turned in the rent money for January to Ms. Carmen Moreno; however, he had collected the February rent money and wanted to turn it in.

5<sup>th</sup> witness card– Eva Delgado

Ms. Delgado explained that she was before the Court to talk about the problem with the Veteran's Museum and clarified that she was not against the Veterans because her husband was a Veteran and that her son would be going to Iraq for a second time. However, she wanted to make it clear that nobody donated anything and that the County had paid approximately \$100,000.00. She asked if there was something hidden in the past administration that made them do this decision. She advised the Court that the public had elected them because they were to make wise decisions.

6<sup>th</sup> witness card– Richard Rossell

Mr. Rossell said that there was overdoses of people who thought they were engineers but in reality don't know a thing about it. He explained that the sight of the museum was very important since it would be located in a historical location and where the businesses are and since there were a lot of veterans who need the services around the area the location was great.

7<sup>th</sup> witness card– Manuel Menchaca

Mr. Menchaca stated that he had served his country in the Marine Corps, US Navy, and in the Armed Forces and had one question which was why was the property bought in the first place. He explained that the purchase was just an extension by the previous administration before they left. However, he affirmed that he believed that the present Court would make a difference since they were honorable men and women. He recommended to the Court to place the past administration under oath and ask them what really happened.

8<sup>th</sup> witness card– Marissa Martinez

Ms. Martinez advised the Court that she would speak on item no. 55. She asked the Court to instruct the Economic Development and the Purchasing Agent to comply with the regulations set forth by the Texas Property Code and the Texas Administrative Code. She explained that effective January 2004, all residential building contractors had to be licensed with the Texas Residential Construction Commission (TRCC) and advised the Court that after extensive research no such registrations of homes exist for any Webb County residential and/or rehabilitations. Additionally, she stated that she had found in the minutes that contracts have been awarded to unlicensed contractors and as a

result of the failure to comply the Colonia residents have not been protected with the state's minimum imposed warranties. She affirmed the Court that she is committed to assure that these residences be awarded the warranties and has formerly filed a complaint with TRCC for enforcement against the contractors for failure to comply.

9<sup>th</sup> witness card– Margie Ramirez Ibarra (Webb County Clerk)

Mrs. Ibarra presented a status report on the court collections. Mrs. Kristina Guerra, Collections Coordinator, explained that collections through the state mandated program are scheduled to begin in April; however, the collections of fees have been collected since 2005. Mrs. Ibarra invited everyone to come by the County Clerks Office to view where the collections department has been set up.

Item No. 7. Discussion and possible action to approve the Colonia Mobile Dental Van Program sponsored by the A.R. "Tony" and Maria J. Sanchez Family Foundation which will provide dental care at no charge to colonia residents.

Mr. Leroy Medford, Executive Administrator to the County Judge, introduced Dr. Bill Dodge, Jamie Balboa, Sara Alicia Pompa, Maria J. Sanchez, and Hector Gonzalez.

Mr. Hector Gonzalez further introduced Mr. Mike Trevino and Sister Rose Mary Welsh who were also present. He briefed the Court on how Laredo has had a history of a long professional relationship with the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio with all its programs. He explained that the local center has formed an advisory committee to be able to get feedback on how they can help the community. Mr. Bill Dodge, Vice Dean of the University of Health Science Center, stated that in order for them to conduct the dental services they need access to electricity and the centers to remain opened during the weekend; however, he mentioned that he spoke to the community center directors and they advised him that he needed Court approval first.

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Mr. Medford reminded the Court that the services would be provided on Fridays and Saturdays and the community centers would need to be opened. Cmr. Sciaraffa advised the Court that the Rio Bravo Community Center would be opened and Cmr. Tijerina advised that in the Quad City this is already being implemented.

Item No. 8. Proclamation Celebrating LULAC's 78th Anniversary and recognizing the week of February 11-17 as "National LULAC Week".

Mr. Leroy Medford introduced Mr. Armando Chapa, Ed Bueno, Justice of the Peace Oscar Martinez, and Mr. Carlos Villarreal from Lulac Council #12.

Mr. Armando Chapa explained that every year they try to raise more than \$30,000. in order to give back to the community.

Mr. Ed Bueno invited everyone to be present at the upcoming events. He went on to thank the Commissioners Court for their support.

Mr. Carlos Villarreal mentioned that this year marked the 78<sup>th</sup> anniversary for Lulac. He explained that there were a lot of individuals from Webb County involved in the founding of Lulac.

J.P. Oscar Martinez thanked the Court for their support since a proclamation has never been done before. He went on to thank Cmr. Garza and the Court for their support with the E – payment service.

Judge Valdez congratulated Lulac Council #12 and read the proclamation.

Item No. 9. Discussion and possible action to retain the services of Johnson and Johnson to provide legislative consulting services to Webb County, and ordering an exemption from Section 262.023 of the Local Government Code (262.024 (a) (4) ) and authorizing the County  
Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Co-Sponsored by Hon. Rosaura Tijerina, Commissioner Pct. 2]

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion. Cmr. Tijerina asked when the contract would expire, to which Mr. Medford answered that the previous contract was due to terminate on the 14<sup>th</sup> and that there was backup and a resume regarding new contract. Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney, advised the Court that they will send notice to McWilliams and Associates on the new contract and that the County will not be seeking further service from them.

Cmr. Garza affirmed the Court that he has the confidence that Johnson and Johnson would do an excellent job in getting the word out to Austin. Cmr. Tijerina congratulated the Johnson Brothers and assured the Court that they would do a great job.

Judge Valdez asked the Johnson Brothers to really focus on County issues even though they were at a disadvantage being that they were in the middle of a legislative session. He advised them that he looks forward to meeting with them to explain all issues that affect Webb County especially in the rural areas. Mr. Johnson advised the Court that he felt honored to be serving Webb County and that he would like to meet so that he could get enlightened on what the needs are for the County. He went on to explain that Webb County is being looked at with a lot of hope now that new relationships have been established with the City of Laredo versus on what has been viewed before.

Mr. Homero Ramirez asked if the Court could also approve the Order of exemption from competitive bidding being that this is a professional service.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve the Order. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 10. Discussion and possible action to approve the creation of a Webb County Legislative Agenda Committee and to appoint members of the Commissioners Court and/or staff who will help address important Webb County matters to the 2007 legislative agenda. [Co-Sponsored by Commissioner Jerry Garza]

Judge Valdez recommended appointing Cmr. Jerry Garza as Committee Chair, Ms. Rhonda Tiffin, Mr. Juan Vargas, Mr. Nathan Bratton, and someone from the Judiciary which would be a representative from the Sheriff's Department.

Cmr. Garza thanked Judge Valdez for his nomination as Chair for the committee and affirmed that there was a lot of work ahead of them. He asked the Court that he would like to include to the committee Mr. Carlos Villarreal because he knows the issues facing Webb County. Judge Valdez included Mr. Carlos Villarreal and Mr. Leroy Medford to be part of the committee. Cmr. Martinez advised the Court that Mr. Villarreal's appointment should be subject to his seeking employment with the City of Laredo.

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to approve Judge Valdez's recommendations subject to Mr. Carlos Villarreal's employment status with the City of Laredo. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 11. Discussion and possible action to have the newly elected County Judge and Commissioners, Pct. 2 and Pct. 4, designate their appointee to the Webb County Employee Grievance Committee. Honorable Frank Sciaraffa, Webb County Commissioner Pct. 1

Cmr. Tijerina recommended Mr. Ernesto Guajardo. Cmr. Martinez recommended Mr. Arturo Tijerina. Judge Valdez recommended Mr. Roberto Mancha. Cmr. Sciaraffa changed his appointee to Ms. Vicky Cantu. Cmr. Garza kept his present appointee Mr. Rene De La Vina.

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to approve all recommendations. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 12. Discussion and Possible Action Authorizing Change Order No. 1 to CG Construction in the amount of \$80,133.05 increasing the Contract price of \$585,820.57 to \$665,953.62 for the La Presa Community Center.

Cmr. Sciaraffa explained that the additions being made are for the Constable's office and for the Commissioner's office on Tuesdays and Thursdays since the other office would be designated for Mr. Ryan Guillen, State Representative. Mr. Martinez, from Las Presas Community Center, thanked Cmr. Sciaraffa for the additions and the security for the center. Cmr. Sciaraffa mentioned that these additions would increase the community center to 4,300 squared feet and that was the reason he had asked regarding the dental program there would also be an extra examination room available. Mr. Tomas Rodriguez, County Engineer, stated that the project is on schedule and projected to complete in the next four months. Cmr. Martinez asked from what account the funding would be coming from; to which Mr. Rodriguez said it would be from Cmr. Sciaraffa's bond series.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 13. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to solicit bids for one (1) modular building (56 x 62) for the Head Start Department. [FUND: Commissioner Frank Sciaraffa, Pct. 1 Bond Series]

Comr. Sciaraffa explained that the building would be for the El Cenizo Headstart Program which would increase from two classrooms to three or four. Mr. Eloy Ramirez, Purchasing Agent, mentioned the bids would be taken and once they get presented to the Court the total costs would be included. Comr. Sciaraffa stated that any costs would be able to get funded through the parks development fund. Ms. Aliza Oliveros, Head Start Program Director, explained that part of the costs include \$55,000.00 for concrete pads and some surfacing tile for the playground; however, they would try their best to move the current playground being used right now to reduce the cost or possibly eliminating it completely.

Comr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Comr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 14. Discussion and possible action authorizing the Purchasing Agent, Road & Bridge Superintendent and County Engineer to prepare bid specifications and advertise for bids for the street lighting of Espejo Molina Road from Juarez Lincoln Elementary School to El Cenizo.

Comr. Sciaraffa explained that this was the lighting leading unto El Cenizo from Espejo Molina since it is a very dangerous road. Mr. Tomas Rodriguez stated that there was a strong possibility that AEP could provide the lights and charge rent instead of the full amount. Comr. Tijerina asked where the funding would be coming from; to which Mr. Rodriguez answered that there was funding right now coming from the interest in the bond series of the paving of roads; however, if AEP were to agree to let the County pay in installment payments then the funding would have to be allocated in next year's budget. Judge Valdez asked that in order for AEP to help what would that entail. Mr. Rodriguez explained that AEP charges the City of Laredo monthly payments but does install all the lights needed. Comr. Martinez asked if there was an approximation on the costs that this would entail. Mr. Rodriguez stated that the costs would be approximately around \$75000.00 from a private contractor; however, he did not have the monthly costs.

Comr. Tijerina motioned to approve item as submitted. Comr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 15. Discussion and possible action authorizing the Purchasing Agent and County Engineer to advertise for bids for the construction of the El Cenizo Public Library.

Comr. Sciaraffa motioned to table item. Comr. Garza seconded the motion. Comr. Sciaraffa mentioned that a meeting will take place on Wednesday and that item will be brought back on the next meeting.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 16. Discussion and possible action authorizing the Purchasing Agent, Road & Bridge Superintendent and County Engineer to prepare bid specifications and advertise for bids for the installation of yellow reflectorized pavement linear markings and reflectors on Espejo Molina Road from Juarez Lincoln Elementary School to El Cenizo.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 17. Discussion and possible action authorizing the Purchasing Agent, Road & Bridge Superintendent and County Engineer to prepare bid specifications and advertise for bids for the installation of sidewalks on the north side of Espejo Molina Road from Hwy 83 to Pena Drive in Rio Bravo. Honorable Rosaura "Wawi" Tijerina, Webb County Commissioner Pct. 2

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Mr. Tomas Rodriguez explained that the preliminary costs were close to \$102,000.0.

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to move up items 18, 20, and 23. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to go into executive session. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

### **Executive Session (10:55 a.m. )**

Item No. 18. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Webb County Attorney to resolve the property encroachment at 409 San Bernardo and 820 Iturbide (also known as the Juan Francisco Farias Veterans Museum) in a manner to be determined by the Commissioners Court and any matters incident thereto. [Closed Session is requested pursuant to §551.071: Consultation with Attorney]. Honorable Jerry Garza, Webb County Commissioner Pct. 3

Item No. 20. Discussion and possible action to instruct County Attorney to resolve any pending issues with the Veterans Museum property. [co-sponsored by Commissioner Rosaura "Wawi" Tijerina. The Commissioners Court may meet in Executive Session with the County Attorney pursuant to § 551.071 (consultation with attorney).]



Item No. 23. Discussion and possible action concerning previous status report on Veterans Historical Museum including title survey performed and any matters incident thereto. [The Commissioners Court may meet in Executive Session with the County Attorney pursuant to § 551.071 (consultation with attorney).]

Judge Valdez called the meeting back to order and explained that no action was taken in executive session.

Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney, explained that additional information was required in order to make any decisions on items 18, 20, and 23.

Item No. 19. Discussion and possible action to transfer \$5,000.00 from Certificates of Obligation (2006 Series) for building restoration to Constable Tino Juarez, Precinct 4, for the construction of a storage facility.

Cmr. Garza stated that he would like the transfer amount to be \$10,000.00.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 21. Staff report from the Road & Bridge Superintendent on the status of the Del Mar Blvd. paving project (East of Loop 20), with discussion and possible action.

Cmr. Garza explained that paving has already been done for one mile and a half on Del Mar Blvd (East of Loop 20) and that there were still funding available to continue with the paving of this road being that some business and residential areas are beginning to build around there. Mr. Jose Luis Ramos, Road & Bridge Superintendent, advised the Court they are in the process of completing pavement in El Cenizo and will continue paving Del Mar Blvd by mid March; however, he stated that last year the Court had approved the paving of one mile per precinct but if the Court had no objection he could continue paving the rest of the three miles. Cmr. Garza mentioned that precinct 3 does not have the amount of county roads that the rest of the precincts have and he would like for this project to be completed and then the rest of the precincts could continue with their projects.

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to approve Mr. Jose Luis Ramos, Road & Bridge Superintendent, to continue paving the remaining three miles after completion in El Cenizo. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Mr. Ramos reminded the Court that the reason for the delay of these projects was because they were completing paving in Mirando and Bruni.

Item No. 22. Discussion and possible action to pass a Resolution that supports the full funding of the Texas Rail Relocation Fund and all efforts to upgrade and relocate nineteenth century rail crossings to areas that support increased trade efficiency and improve the safety and quality of life of our citizens. [co-sponsored by Commissioner Rosaura "Wawi" Tijerina] Honorable Sergio "Keko" Martinez, Webb County Commissioner Pct. 4

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 24. Status report and possible action related to any lease agreements assumed with the purchase of the property known as the Veterans Museum and to any lease payments due to the County from tenants occupying the property.

Cmr. Martinez asked Ms. Carmen Moreno and Mr. Leo Flores if the lease payments were deposited or not; to which Ms. Carmen Moreno, Treasurer's Department, answered that the monies would be deposited today and covered the months of January and February. Cmr. Martinez asked the Court what happens to the people that are occupying the property right now. Mr. Homero Ramirez recommended that things continue being as they are right now being that the lease agreement has not been completed; however, there was agreement between the Veterans Coalition and the Farias Family. Cmr. Martinez advised that his concern was that since the County is now the owner is there any type of liability between the tenants that are occupying the property. Mr. Ramirez mentioned that once the agreement is completed, he will bring it for the Court's approval. Cmr. Garza asked what the amount of the rent was; to which Ms. Moreno answered that it was \$1,350.00 a month.

Cmr. Martinez affirmed that there was no action needed other than the County Attorney presenting to the Court if there are any types of lease agreements that are in existence.

Item No. 25. Discussion and possible action regarding missing funds from the utilities department and other amounts that are owed to the County resulting from overpayments of rent and from non-payment of a hunting lease agreement and possible action to initiate collection of same.

Mr. Leo Flores, County Auditor, advised the Court that in the item backup there was a memo sent on to the Court and the County Attorney where he was seeking to get some civil litigation and possibly criminal litigation at a later time. He explained that by doing this a judgment could be filed on record and if the person in the future tried to sell any property the County would collect first. Mr. Flores mentioned that regarding the missing funds he had reported it to the District Attorney's Office and they in turn referred it to the Texas Rangers.

Mr. Homero Ramirez recommended to the Court that a representative from the District Attorney's office come and provide a status report to the Court in Executive Session and if the Court is not satisfied they could proceed another way. However, in respect to the other case he advised the Court that he could provide them with a list of recommendations in the other meeting. Cmr. Martinez asked Mr. Ramirez to prepare a report to the Court for the next meeting.

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to move up item #48. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 48. Discussion and Possible to enter into a Professional Service Agreement with Clifford M. Black, Ph D. , Professor of Criminal Justice and Sociology as Administrative Coordinator for Webb County Sheriff's Department effective January 1, 2007. (From Acct. No. 168-2001-6022, Professional Services, Forfeiture Funds).

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Cmr. Garza motioned to move item #49 up. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Item No. 49. Discussion and possible action for the Commissioners Court to approve request from the Tax Assessor-Collector's Office, Dept. 0700:  
Refund due as follows:  
The Laredo National Bank, ATTN: Elizabeth Degollado  
PO Box 59, Laredo, TX 78042-0059  
Acct. #: 90011003040  
Reason: Paid on incorrect account  
Total Refund: \$9,601.65

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 26. Discussion and possible action to authorize the County Purchasing Agent, or other appropriate county office, to prepare general request for all payments arising out of third party funding contracts, but only after the contracts have been signed by all parties and filed with the County Clerk upon receipt of a certified contract.

Mr. Eloy Ramirez stated that it would be more appropriate for the general requests for payments to be prepared by the County Attorney's office since they take care of all the contracts. Mr. Ramirez advised the Court that if they designate him to prepare the requests he would have no problem and would coordinate with the County Attorney's Office for all preparations of the requests.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to recommend the Purchasing Agent to prepare the general requests for payments. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Cmr. Martinez asked Mr. Homero Ramirez if he had a problem with appointing Mr. Eloy Ramirez to prepare the requests. Mr. Homero Ramirez stated that in the backup for this item he had sent a memo recommending Mr. Eloy Ramirez to prepare all requests for payments and that in fact there would need to be coordination among both departments. He advised the Court that no payments shall be rendered until the contracts are approved, signed and filed at the County Clerks Office. Cmr. Martinez asked if any of the 3<sup>rd</sup> party funding contracts have ever been audited; to which Mr. Homero Ramirez answered that they submit annual contracts, however, the question on the audits would have to be answered by the County Auditor.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 27. Discussion and possible action to support legislative changes and direct staff to prepare proposed legislation to amend current state law which adversely impacts utility connections in border counties and, any matters incident thereto.

Mr. Carlos Villarreal, Executive Administrator to Commissioner's Court, explained that they were working together with the residence of Las Presas and has asked the Johnson Brothers for their support in Austin. Ms. Rhonda Tiffin, Planning Department Director, advised the Court that everyone was aware of the harsh problems facing the colonia residence with the legislative enforcement tools which prohibit the utility connections in the colonias. She explained that she would like to obtain legislative approval of modifying the sale of prohibition of the residential tracts to the individual property owner and limit them only to the developers and sub dividers of the property. Another important item she explained was that a legal lot on record should be identified as well as looking into the utility connection laws and the possible prohibition of water and sewer service for the residence of Mines Road and 359.

Mr. Hilario Martinez, La Presa Community Association, thanked the Court for their support in the proposed legislative changes.

Mr. Israel Morales Reyna, Representative of Agua Association of La Presa, informed the Court of the vital necessities that the colonia residence are lacking and thanked everyone for their support in changing the legislative laws. He mentioned that with everyone's help this could be done and they would be available for the first trip to Austin to go testify on these problems. Judge Valdez assured Mr. Reyna that the Court was very sensitive when it comes to all the issues that the colonia residents were facing and asked for his cooperation with the legislative committee in order to help bring about these changes. Mr. Reyna commended Ms. Rhonda Tiffin on a job well done. Cmr. Tijerina commended everyone on a job well done.

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Cmr. Sciaraffa and Cmr. Martinez commended both Mr. Reyna and Ms. Tiffin for all their hard work.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Cmr. Garza motioned to take a media break. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

## **MEDIA BREAK(11:35 to 11:50)**

Item No. 28. Discussion and possible action to enter into a three year (February 1, 2007 through January 31, 2010) maintenance agreement with JOHNSON CONTROLS, INC. (York International) to provide maintenance services for two York Air Conditioning Chillers located at the Central Chiller Plant at a TOTAL COST OF TWENTY THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND EIGHTY DOLLARS (\$20,880.00) over the three years, seeking a discretionary exemption to the competitive bidding statute (Local Gov't Code section 262.024(a) (7) (Sole Source), and authorizing

the County Judge to execute all relevant documents.[Requested by Facilities Department; Account Number 001-0106-6401 (Repairs and Maintenance)].

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 29. Discussion and possible action to enter into a five (5) year (February 1, 2007 through January 31, 2012) lease agreement with AUTOPHONE OF LAREDO, INC. to provide tower antenna space for the Webb County Sheriff Department Radio Repeater on the Mirando Tower at a monthly cost of THREE HUNDRED AND NINETY-FIVE DOLLARS (\$395.00) FOR A TOTAL COST OF TWENTY THREE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$23,700.00) over the five years, and authorizing the County Judge to execute all relevant documents.[Requested by Webb County Sheriff Department; Account Number 001-2001-6014 (Equipment Rental)]

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 30. Discussion and possible action to enter into a one (1) year (September 1, 2006 through August 31, 2007), Memorandum of Understanding with the South Texas Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse (STCADA) at a cost not to exceed FORTY THOUSAND (\$40,000.00) DOLLARS wherein STCADA will provide professional counseling services to youths referred by the Webb County Juvenile Drug Court who are diagnosed with co-occurring mental health and addiction conditions, and authorizing the County Judge to execute all relevant documents.[Account Number 307-11101-6023(Contract Services)].

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-1 with Cmr. Garza not present.

Item No. 31. Discussion and possible action to enter into an agreement with the State of Texas by Resolution and Order of the Commissioners Court agreeing to the terms and conditions of the Advance Funding Agreement for Bridge Replacement or Rehabilitation Off The State System (CSJ:0922-33-013) Espada Creek on FM 1472 (Mines Road) with the State to pay SIX HUNDRED EIGHTY SEVEN THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$687,700.00) with a county match of FIFTY THREE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED FORTY DOLLARS AND SIXTY CENTS (\$53,640.60) and authorizing the County Judge to sign the agreement. [Requested by Webb County Engineer Funds available in 661-7501-8621-02 2003 Bond Series and 010-7002-6404.]

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

**Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.**

- Item No. 32. Discussion and possible action to enter into an Interlocal Government Agreement with the City of Laredo to form a Mutual Aid Law Enforcement Task Force during the 2007 Washington's Birthday Celebration Festivities (January 18 through February 19, 2007) to allow the Sheriff's Department and Laredo Police Department to Mutually Assist each other in traffic and crowd control and authorizing the County Judge to execute all relevant documents.

**Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.**

**Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.**

- Item No. 33. Discussion and possible action to enter into an agreement with the State of Texas by Resolution and Order of the Commissioners Court agreeing to the terms and conditions of the Advance Funding Agreement for Bridge Replacement or Rehabilitation Off The State System (CSJ:0922-33-092) San Juanita Creek on Rubios Road (0.74 miles North of SH359) with the State to pay TWO HUNDRED FORTY EIGHT THOUSAND FORTY DOLLARS (\$248,040.00) with a county match of NINETEEN THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED FORTY SEVEN DOLLARS AND TWLEVE CENTS (\$19,347.12) and authorizing the County Judge to sign the agreement. [Requested by Webb County Engineer Funds available in 661-7501-8621-02 2003 Bond Series and 010-7002-6404.]

**Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.**

**Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.**

- Item No. 34. Discussion and possible action to pass a resolution and order "In Support Of Changing The Name And Designation Of Cuatro Vientos Road To Loop 20" as requested by the Texas Department of Transportation and authorizing the signature of same.

**Cmr Garza motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.**

**Motion carried 4-1 with Cmr. Sciaraffa not present.**

- Item No. 35. Discussion and possible action to enter into a one (1) year (September 1, 2006 and through August 31, 2007) Cooperative Working Agreement with the South Texas Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse (STCADA), allowing CAA to refer potential clients to STCADA that would benefit from STCADA's Substance Outpatient Treatment Program (TRA) at no cost to the County and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Requested by Community Action Agency]

**Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.**

**Motion carried 4-1 with Cmr. Sciaraffa not present.**

- Item No. 36. Discussion and possible action to enter into a one (1) year (September 1, 2006 through August 31, 2007) Cooperative Working Agreement with the South Texas Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse (STCADA) allowing CAA to refer potential clients to STCADA that would benefit from STCADA's HIV Early Intervention Service Program Bridges of Life at no cost to the County and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents.[Requested by Community Action Agency]

**Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.**

**Motion carried 4-1 with Cmr. Sciaraffa not present.**

- Item No. 37. Discussion and possible action to enter into a one (1) year (September 1, 2006 through August 31, 2007) Cooperative Working Agreement with the South Texas Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse (STCADA) allowing CAA to refer potential clients to STCADA that would benefit from STCADA's HIV prevention services at no cost to the County and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Requested by Community Action Agency]

**Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.**

**Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.**

- Item No. 38. Discussion and possible action to enter into a one (1) year (September 1, 2006 through August 31, 2007) Memorandum of Understanding with South Texas Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse (STCADA) to allow STCADA to coordinate substance abuse counseling for adults and adolescents, drug and parenting skills education, relapse prevention skills as well as other services with the Webb County Community Action Agency, at no cost to the County and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Requested by Community Action Agency]

**Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.**

**Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.**

- Item No. 39. Discussion and possible action to approve a two (2) year (September 30, 2006 through September 29, 2008) service Agreement with Mercy Rehab Services, Inc to provide rehabilitative services to children with disabilities enrolled in the Head Start Program at no cost to Webb County and authorizing the County Judge to sign all related documents. [Requested by Head Start; no cost to Webb County]

- Item No. 40. Discussion and possible action to enter into a one (1) year (January 22, 2007 through January 21, 2008) Premium Plus Maintenance Agreement with Office

Communications Systems, Inc. for the maintenance of one (1) Toshiba E Studio 600 Copier to be located at the County Clerk's Office in the amount of FIFTEEN DOLLARS (\$15.00) per month being ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY DOLLARS (\$180.00) over the term of the agreement and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Requested by Webb County Clerk; Account Number 001-1120-6022 (Equipment Maintenance)]

- Item No. 41. Discussion and possible action to enter into a one (1) year (January 22, 2007 through January 21, 2008) Premium Plus Maintenance Agreement with Office Communications Systems, Inc. for maintenance of one (1) Toshiba E Studio-600 Copier to be located at the Road & Bridge Office for a in the amount of FIFTEEN DOLLARS (\$15.00) per month being ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY DOLLARS (\$180.00) over the term of the agreement and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Requested by Webb County Road & Bridge; Account Number: 010-7001-6022 (Equipment Maintenance)]
- Item No. 45. Discussion and possible action to enter into a (12) twelve month (October 1, 2006 through September 20, 2007) third party funding agreement with Gateway Health Center located at 2309 Saunders at a fee of SIXTY-TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$62,500.00) PAID UPON ACCEPTANCE AND TWELVE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$12,500.00) PER MONTH FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM FOR A TOTAL OF ONE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$150,000.00), and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Danny Valdez, Webb County Judge; Account Number 001-4300-7455 (Gateway Community Health)]
- Item No. 46. Discussion and possible action to approve the Retainer Agreement with Allison, Bass & Associates, L.L.P. to represent Webb County against Satterfield & Pontikes Construction Company and authorizing the County Judge to execute all relevant documents.
- Item No. 47. Discussion and possible action to enter into a five (5) year (February 1, 2007 through January 31, 2012) lease agreement with AUTOPHONE OF LAREDO, INC. to provide tower antenna space for the Webb County Road and Bridge Radio Repeater on the Mirando Tower at a monthly cost of FIVE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-ONE DOLLARS (\$521.00) FOR A TOTAL COST OF THIRTY ONE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED AND SIXTY DOLLARS (\$31,260.00) over the five years, and authorizing the County Judge to execute all relevant documents.[Requested by Road and Bridge Department; Account Number 010-7002-6014 (Equipment Rental)]

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve items 39, 40, 41, 45, 46, and 47 as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.



Item No. 42. Discussion and possible action to enter into a three (3) year (February 12, 2007, through February 11, 2010) monitoring agreement with PYRAMID FIRE PROTECTION for fire alarm service at the Casa Ortiz property at a cost of TWENTY-ONE DOLLARS PER MONTH (\$21.00) and authorizing the County Judge to execute all relevant documents. [Requested by Purchasing; Account No. 001-0109-6004 (Telephone)]

Cmr. Martinez asked if the property had already been purchased by the County. Mr. Nathan Bratton, Assistant County Attorney, explained that the property had not been purchased yet; however, in the lease agreement that the County had with the owners property protection had to take place while the purchase was being done. Cmr. Martinez asked if for upcoming agenda items full backup be placed accompanying the item so that the Court could get a better understanding of the items.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 43. Discussion and possible action to enter into a three (3) year (February 12, 2007, through February 11, 2010) monitoring agreement with PYRAMID FIRE PROTECTION for security alarm service for the Casa Ortiz property at a cost of SIXTEEN DOLLARS PER MONTH (\$16.00) and authorizing the County Judge to execute all relevant documents. [Requested by Purchasing; Account No. 001-0109-6004 (Telephone)]

Cmr. Martinez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 44. Discussion and possible action to enter into a purchase and installation contract involving water well pumping equipment with Richardson & Dunn, Inc. d/b/a J & S Water Wells involving Webb County's school lands' water well located off U.S. Highway 83 and Texas Highway 44 at a cost not to exceed TWO HUNDRED AND FORTY-NINE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$249,000.00), and authorizing the Webb County Judge to execute all relevant documents. [Requested by Webb County Engineer, Account No. 718-0118-8601].

Cmr. Martinez asked Mr. Tomas Rodriguez who the water pump would be serving. Mr. Tomas Rodriguez, County Engineer, explained that La Moca Colonias was within 10 miles away. Judge Valdez clarified that he would rather have the county and the city enter into an agreement before allocating any more money into this water well pump. Mr. Rodriguez explained that by installing the pump right now the county could generate revenue by selling the water to all the oil companies. Judge Valdez stated that he would rather wait so that all entities work together since he also had a concern whether this would affect the school district. Mr. Rodriguez confirmed that the installation would not affect the school district.

Mr. Homero Ramirez advised the Court that they could either make a motion on the item or table the item.

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to table the item. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 50. Discussion and possible action for Court approval on the Request for Qualifications document for Public Information Officer Slot, as well as direction from the Court on the procedural components once applications are received.

Ms. Cynthia Mares, Administrative Services, advised the Court that in the item backup was the notice of vacancy and qualifications for the Public Information Officer and that she was seeking input from the Court for any changes or if it met their satisfaction as well as the length of time the Court wished for notice to advertise. Cmr. Garza stated that he would like to include in the qualifications that the candidate have the ability to produce cable television programming, be able to use data and/or digital camera equipment, to be familiar with linear and non linear editing, and lastly that the individual be notified that working after hours would be required.

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to include Cmr. Garza's recommendations. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Judge Valdez motioned to have the notice post for fourteen days. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Cmr. Garza stated that he would like a mock presentation to be included in the interviewing process; to which Ms. Mares stated that she would make all preparations and bring back to the Court for approval.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 51. Discussion and possible action to accept-reject or modify the recommendation of the Administrative Services Department to implement and apply the "Screening/Selection Process Plan of Action" to the search for and selection of a Public Defender.

Ms. Cynthia Mares, advised the Court that the advertisement is opened and the deadline is on February 15, 2007; however, she asked direction on what happens after all applications are turned in. She mentioned that included in the Court's packet was recommendations on the composition of the Screening Committee and what they are to do. Cmr. Garza stated that he would like to have a Screening Committee to review the applications and bring back recommendations to the Court in order to eliminate any politics since the Court needs well qualified individuals for all slots.

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to form a screening committee and have them bring recommendations to the Court on both the Public Defender and Public Information Officer.

Cmr. Sciaraffa asked what the number of applicants being brought back to the Court would be; to which Cmr. Martinez stated that five applicants should be enough. Judge Valdez asked who was going to be on the Screening Committee. Ms. Mares explained that her recommendations were in the backup; however, Cmr. Tijerina suggested that each Commissioner appoint one person who is

not in the legal community. Mr. Homero Ramirez recommended that the initial screening to meet minimum requirements to be an administrative matter; however, all applicants who meet the minimum requirements should be brought to the Court and they decide who is to get interviewed. Cmr. Martinez motioned to approve the County Attorney's recommendations. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Ms. Mares advised the Court that two individuals have picked up the packages; however, it was online and she would not have count on those.

Item No. 52. Discussion and possible action to authorize the CAA Executive Director to fill the following slots:  
Slot #1218 Food Service worker \$8.25 per hour Part time No benefits  
Slot #1221 Food Service Worker \$8.25 per hour Part time No benefits  
Slot #1856 Food Transporter \$8.25 per hour Full time Benefits

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 53. Discussion and possible action to accept an award in the amount of \$17,000.00 from FEMA Emergency Food & Shelter Program Phase # 25. Webb County Community Action Agency will utilize these funds for utility and rent assistance.

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 54. Discussion and possible action to authorize the CAA Executive Director to fill the following slots for the Social Services Program, effective February 13, 2007.  
Slot # 1848 Driver \$17,160.00 Regular/Fulltime w Benefits  
Slot # 1156 Caseworker \$19,000.00 Regular/Fulltime w Benefits  
[Funds available account #920 -4200-5001 and 902-4200-5001.]

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Cmr. Garza asked Mr. Kazen if the positions were advertised on the newspaper; to which Mr. Kazen said no only on the county web and if funds could be allocated under the general fund then the posting could be done on the newspaper.

Item No. 55. Discussion and possible action to accept recommendations from the Webb County Rehabilitation Scoring Committee on the following eligible applicant to receive assistance under the Economic Development Department, TDCA-Home Investment Partnership

Program Contract #1000494: Mr. Jorge Santos of El Cenizo, Texas 78046 and the authorization for the purchasing agent to solicit proposals for the rehabilitation of the home. (Funding Source TCDP Contract #1000494) This action will not have an impact on the County's General Fund.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned for approval of item as submitted with discussion. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Cmr. Sciaraffa asked who was on the Rehabilitation Scoring Committee; to which Mr. Juan Vargas mentioned that the members were Ms. Cynthia Mares, Mr. Eloy Ramirez, Mr. Homero Ramirez, Ms. Valerie Rivera Soto, Mr. Pete Lara, and himself.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Mr. Juan Vargas, Economic Development, advised the Court that an item would be placed on the next agenda to reappoint members to the Rehabilitation Scoring Committee.

Item No. 56. Discussion and possible action authorizing the Road & Bridge Department to complete the construction of the parking lot for LIFE Downs utilizing the additional Asphalt Milling Materials donated by TXDOT.

Cmr. Martinez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 57. Discussion and possible action authorizing Final Payment and Retainage to Sherfey Engineering Co., L.L.S., in the amount of \$1,362.50 for the Design Phase of Old Milwaukee & Tanquecitos I Water & Sewer Connections Contract TCDP No. 721175.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 58. Discussion and possible action authorizing the Utilities Department Manager to fill the following slots:  
Slot # 1538 Operator \$10.58 per hour  
Slot # 2353 Cashier \$11.80 per hour

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 59. Discussion and possible action authorizing the Purchasing Agent and the County Engineer to prepare bid specifications and advertise for bids for the repair of the 16 inch raw water line and the 24 inch effluent line that were damaged by the rain storm of September 24, 2006.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 60. Discussion and possible action authorizing the Purchasing Agent and the County Engineer to Advertise for Design Build Proposals for the Medical Examiners (Morgue) Building to be constructed at the Base or on County Lands located on the south side of Hwy 59 and the Authorization to transfer \$190,580.00 from Fund 682 – Capital Outlay for a New Radio Antenna Bond Series 2001 to Fund 676 – Morgue Bond Series 2001.

Mr. Tomas Rodriguez, County Engineer, recommended to the Court the Hwy 59 sight for the building of the Morgue and the transfer of funds was because initially the \$150,000.00 now for the antenna were funds for the morgue. Cmr. Sciaraffa explained that he had no problem with the sight of the morgue; however, he did not want to transfer funds from the antenna because what if the antenna was to be needed in the future. Cmr. Martinez recommended that the item be tabled since he could not make a decision for lack of information. Cmr. Garza asked what the estimated time to build the morgue was; to which Mr. Rodriguez informed the Court that it would take approximately one year and the time to vacate the present morgue was around six months which would be in September 2007. Cmr. Garza advised the Court that it was more appropriate to decide on the location now to avoid any inconveniences. Mr. Carlos Villarreal, Executive Administrator to the Commissioner's Court, recommended to the Court to decide on the location of Hwy 59 and then come back to approve from where the funding will come from.

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to table item. Cmr. Martinez seconded the motion. Cmr. Garza stated that it was important to decide on the location and table from where the funding would come from only. Judge Valdez stated that he would want to revisit the issue with the city and come back to the Court with more information in two weeks. Dr. Corrine Stern, Medical Examiner, recommended that the sight on Hwy 59 is the most accessible for the morgue being that the location is in front of the Sheriff's station, which would provide security, in front of Road & Bridge, to be able to fuel up the vehicles, would be on a wide access road, and close to both hospitals.

Item No. 61. Discussion and possible action to authorize the County Engineer and County Attorney to negotiate with George Mapus a public right-of-way across a tributary of the Chacon Creek, located approximately three hundred fifty feet north of State Highway 59 and 1400 feet east of the Lake Casa Blanca Dam service road.  
[Requested by the Engineering Department]

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 62. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Head Start Director to fill the following slots:  
Slot # 1112 Substitute Teacher \$9,097.20 annually Part time no benefits. 30 hrs/ week for 10 mos. effective February 13, 2007.

Slot # 1696 Substitute Teacher \$9,097.20 annually Part time no benefits. 30 hrs/ week for 10 mos. effective February 13, 2007.

Slot # 1697 Substitute Teacher \$9,097.20 annually Part time no benefits. 30 hrs/ week for 10 mos. effective February 13, 2007.  
[Funds available account # 903-4208-5001]

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Slot #2050 Substitute Teacher \$4,548.60 annually Part time no benefits 15 hrs/ week for 10 months effective February 13, 2007 - May 18, 2007 [Funds available account It 903-4208-5001]

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 63. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Acting Public Defender to fill the following slot:

Slot # 1725- Assistant Public Defender, at an annual salary up to \$57,876.00

Cmr. Martinez asked if there was a need to fill in the slot at the moment. Ms. Virginia Aranda explained that there was a need at the County Court at Law #1, since she had to move an attorney to the 406<sup>th</sup> District Court and to the Justice of the Peace as per Senate Bill #7. Cmr. Garza clarified that back in December 2006, the Court had approved that all job positions were required to be posted. Cmr. Tijerina asked if it could wait being that a Public Defender was to be hired in two weeks.

Cmr. Garza motioned to allow the acting public defender to post the job opening and get applications but not to hire at the moment. Cmr. Martinez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 64. Discussion and possible action to dispose of office furniture and vehicles pursuant to Subchapter D. Disposition of Salvage or Surplus Property, §263.152, Texas Local Government Code.

Mr. Eloy Ramirez explained that the County Clerks Office had recently received new furniture; however, he had already sent memos out to all departments advising them if any furniture was wanted and no one had said there was a need for any furniture.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 65. Discussion and possible action to purchase seventy-five (75) veteran markers from Standard Granite, Co. in the amount of \$9,375.00 for the Building Maintenance Department. FUND: 001-0106-6401;BAL: \$132,116.04

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 66. Discussion and possible action to purchase the following office equipment for Commissioner Pct. 2, Rosaura "Wawi" Tijerina; FUND: CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATIONS, SERIES 2006:

Description	Vendor	Amount
(2) Personal Computers	LENOVO	\$2,761.42
(2) HP Photosmart printers	Southern Computer	
DIR-SDD-223	Warehouse	\$ 367.16
(2) MS OFFICE 2007	LICENSE	
(2) MS OFFICE 2007	MEDIA	
(2) WINDOWS SERVER	CAL	
(2) EXCHANGE CAL	SHI	\$ 802.00
	TOTAL	\$3,930.58

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Cmr. Martinez asked Mr. Eloy Ramirez if there was a copier available for his office; to which Mr. Ramirez explained that Cmr. Tijerina was in the process of purchasing a new copier and the existing one could be moved to his office.

Item No. 67. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to purchase the following office equipment for 49th Judicial District Judge Joe Lopez; FUND: CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATIONS, SERIES 2006:

Description	Vendor	Amount
Personal Computers	LENOVO	\$1,128.57
	LENOVO	\$1,285.71
(1) Laptop	Larry Norton	\$2,325.00
Software	SHI	\$1,203.00
	TOTAL	\$5,942.28

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 68. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to purchase one 15 x 18 cast bronze plaque for "William N. "Billy" Hall" from The Plaxx Companies, Inc. in the amount of \$771.00; [FUND: 679-8105-8103;BAL:\$6,084.00].

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 69. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to purchase one 16 inch diameter court room seal from The Plaxx Companies, Inc. in the amount of \$592.00; [FUND: 679-8105-8103;BAL:\$6,084.00].

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Cmr. Tijerina asked what had happened to the seal that was there before. Mr. Eloy Ramirez explained that the seal was given to the contractors which in turn never placed it in the court room.

Item No. 70. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to purchase two (2) end tables in the amount of \$518.00 from Wittings Office Interiors for the County Judges. [FUND: CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION SERIES 2006]

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 71. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to obtain the services of International Floor Covering of Laredo, Inc. to furnish material and labor in the amount of \$904.28 for Commissioner, Pct. 2, Rosaura Tijerina's office. [FUND: CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION SERIES 2006]

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 72. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to purchase Audio Video System in the amount of \$19,044.71 from VSGI through the MICTA state contract number 0710MSC-A-0036 for the 406th Judicial District Court, Judge Oscar Hale. [FUND: CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION SERIES 2006]

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Martinez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 73. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to purchase the following office equipment for Commissioner Pct. 1, Frank Sciaraffa ; FUND: CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATIONS, SERIES 2006:

Description	Vendor	Amount
Printer	Valcom	\$ 329.00
	DIR-SDD-223	



Personal Computer	LENOVO	\$1,128.57
Software	SHI	\$ 401.00
	TOTAL	\$1,858.57

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 74. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to purchase five (5) computers with software from Gateway through the Texas DIR SDD-220 for the Sheriff's Department; [FUND-311-2001-6224;BAL-\$24,400.00]

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 75. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to retain the services of TREMCO to repair copper roof areas at the Webb County Justice Center through the Cooperative Purchasing Network in the amount of \$51,300 for the Building Maintenance Department. [FUND: 001-2984]

Mr. Eloy Ramirez explained that there was a need to fix the roof because there was water coming into the building.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Martinez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 76. Discussion and possible action for the Commissioners Court to appoint the following Webb County members to serve in the Scoring/Selection Committee pursuant to §2254.003, Government Code:

Leroy Medford	Executive Administrator to County Judge
Carlos Villarreal	Executive Administrator to Commissioners
Homero Ramirez	County Attorney
Tomas Rodriguez	County Engineer
Leo Flores	County Auditor
Eloy Ramirez	Purchasing Agent
Cynthia Mares	Insurance/Risk Manager

Mr. Eloy Ramirez explained that the Scoring/Selection Committee evaluates the proposals submitted to the Purchasing Department. Judge Valdez asked how long the members have been serving in the committee; to which Mr. Ramirez answered that some members are very critical to the scoring committee. Cmr. Tijerina asked if these members had to serve by statute and Mr. Ramirez answered that some of these members are very critical to the scoring selection. Mr. Homero Ramirez explained to the Court that under Section 2254 of the Government Code, certain items are exempt from competitive bidding, therefore, most counties have formed a committee to evaluate the proposer on whether or not the ability to do the work is there and the terms and conditions that are being negotiated. However, he advised that there was no statute that required for a committee to be

formed and that the other option they had was to sit as a Court and evaluate all proposals in a course of a meeting.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to table the item. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 77. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to purchase the following office equipment for 341st Judicial District Judge Elma Salinas Ender; FUND:

CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATIONS, SERIES 2006:

Description	Vendor	Amount
Laptops	Sony VAIO Larry Norton	\$2,325.00
	ThinkPad Larry Norton	\$1,775.00
(2) Stenograph USB Serial Adapters	Stenograph	\$ 59.90
Software	SHI	\$ 401.00
	TOTAL	\$4,560.90

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 78. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to retain the services of Simplex Grinnell for the annual fire alarm, fire sprinkler and fire sprinkler backflow prevention assembly inspection for various county buildings in the amount of \$15,070.00 for the Building Maintenance Department. FUND: 001-0106-6401; BAL: \$131,884.93.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 79. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to purchase the following equipment through DIR state contracts for MIS department: [FUND: Certificates of Obligation Series]

Description	Vendor	Amount
IBM Server	IBM	\$70,863.66
	DIR-SDD-190	
Server License/software	SHI	\$41,630.00
	DIR-SDD-198	
	Grand Total	\$112,493.66

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 80. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to purchase one (1) PS100 Laser Seal machine in the amount of \$8,095.00 plus shipping from

Litho Business Forms, Inc. for the Central Jury Room. [FUND: 660-1111-8801;BAL.\$32,723.00]

Mr. Eloy Ramirez explained that the amount and vendor stated on the item was incorrect. He clarified that the correct amount was \$7,045.00 plus shipping from Drew & Rogers Mailing Solutions.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approved item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 81. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to purchase the following equipment for the District Attorneys office:

Description	Vendor	Amount
Software (4) And licenses	SHI	\$ 1,334.00
Laptops (4)	Southern Computer Warehouse	\$ 5,893.64
(4) Projectors, surge protectors, Heffernan Audio Visual Visual presenter, screens, carts, Maintenance agreements and cables		\$24,926.00
	Grand Total	\$32,153.64

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 82. Discussion and possible action to solicit bids for the Sale of the Juvenile Detention Center.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 83. Discussion and possible action to purchase one copier from NEVILL in the amount of \$10,995.00 .FUND: Certificates of Obligations Series 2006.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Cmr. Garza asked to which department the copier was going to; to which Mr. Eloy Ramirez stated that it would be for his department. He explained that his department was generating a lot o f copies and was in need of a new copier.

Cmr. Garza mentioned that he had been seeing that several purchases were coming out of the Bond Series 2006 and that he would like to get what the balance was at the beginning and what the balance is now. Mr. Leo Flores explained that the beginning balance was at \$1.8 million dollars;

however, with all the expenditures it has decreased. He mentioned the he would send a memo explaining the balance after all the expenditures that occurred at this meeting are calculated.

Item No. 84. Discussion and possible action to donate the attached office equipment pursuant to Subchapter D, Disposition of Salvage or Surplus Property §263.152,(4),(b),(C) of the Texas Local Government Code to the South Texas Food Bank.

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 85. Discussion and possible action to purchase timber for the Road and Bridge department from McCoy's in the amount of \$12,902.60. FUND: 010-7002-6404; \$22,814.42

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 86. Discussion and possible action to purchase ids for an AS400 for the MIS department. FUND: Certificates of Obligation Series 2006 Webb County Morgue

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 87. Discuss and take possible action to allow the Medical Examiner to approach adjacent counties about the option of sending decedents for autopsies at the Webb County Medical Examiner's Office.

Cmr. Tijerina asked if this item was to allow Ms. Stern to perform autopsies on descendants from other counties; to which Ms. Stern answered yes. Judge Valdez explained that he would like to see some kind of MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) created in order to provide services to the surrounding counties and in turn generate some revenue.

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Cmr. Garza asked where these surrounding counties were sending the bodies for autopsies right now. Dr. Stern stated that several counties are sending their autopsies to Bexar County and/or Nueces County; however, she mentioned that Jim Hogg County was in the pending approval on an agenda item in their county to be able to send their autopsies to Webb County. Mr. Homero Ramirez mentioned that he would work with Ms. Stern to develop an MOU for these services.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to go into Executive Session at 1:18 p.m. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION 1:18 p.m. to 1:49 p.m.

- Item No. 88. Discussion and possible action regarding Civil Action No. 05:06cv01; Jose M. Rodriguez, III, vs. Webb County, Texas and Juan Garza, Former Sheriff, Individually; In the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Laredo Division [Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Subchapter D, Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney)].
- Item No. 89 Discussion and possible action regarding Cause No. L-06-85; Guillermo Garcia vs. Webb County; In the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Laredo Division [Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Subchapter D, Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney)].

Mr. Homero Ramirez explained that both cases were pending mediation in Federal Court and that his recommendations were for him to represent in the Rodriguez Case (Item No. 88) and in the Garcia Case (Item No. 89) for Mr. Leroy Medford to represent.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve recommendations. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 90. Adjournment

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to adjourn. Cmr. Martinez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.